

(60)

*7/21* UNCLASSIFIED CIA INTERNAL  
USE ONLY CO<sub>1</sub> DENTIAL SECRET

## ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

FROM:

NO.

DATE

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and  
building)

DATE

OFFICER'S  
INITIALSCOMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom  
to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

1.

EXEC

REC'D FWD'D

CWB

HB  
DS  
ST  
FILE

2.

d/ ASD \$

JG

2. I have  
drafted a general  
memo which is  
attached. If it  
is ok, return to  
me for signature  
& mailing.  
CWB

3.

EXEC

CWB

4.

lh, ASD

5.

(retention)

6.

7.

8.

9.

10.

11.

12.

13.

14.

(1) CWB - forward to b, b  
1 and file in front

JY

JB

FROM:			NO.	
			DATE	
TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)	DATE		OFFICER'S INITIALS	COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)
	REC'D	FWD'D		
1. EXEC			CW	13 DS ST FILE
2. d/ ASD \$			10/	2. I have
3. EXEC			CW	drafted a general reply which is attached. If it is ok. return to me for signature & mailing.
4. hh, ASD				CLO
5. (retention)				
6.				
7.				
8.				
9.				
10.				
11.				
12.				
13.				
14.				
15.				

FORM 1 DEC 55 610 USE PREVIOUS EDITIONS

SECRET  CONFIDENTIAL  CIA INTERNAL USE ONLY  UNCLASSIFIED

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AMERICAN AIRLINES

20 December 1956

Subject: Report of Unidentified Flying Object

1. During the observation of test 3018 at 0104Z, 6 December 1956, a red flare was sighted high in the eastern sky. This flare was a spot of reddish light with short tails of the same color protruding from each side of the spot to the south.
2. The flare appeared to be at 15,000 to 20,000 feet. Its track, at first sighted (Lunch, plus about one minute), was estimated to be some 10-12 miles east to the south from the writer's position three miles north of T-37 MacDill, and its course was due north. Speed was estimated to be 750-1000 miles per hour.
3. The missile altitude at about T plus 95 seconds appeared to be the same as the altitude of the flare.
4. The flare made a wide turn to the east immediately after the missile "passed" it (missile track appeared to be some 3 to 4 miles toward shore from the track of the flare), completing the turn about 8 to 10 seconds before burn-out of the missile.
5. Upon completion of the turn, the flare picked up a heading of 90 - 100 degrees and maintained this heading until out of sight of the writer at T plus 330 seconds.
6. As far as could be determined, the flare's track did not vary in speed or altitude during the writer's sighting.
7. On making the turn to the east, the two tails disappeared. Whether this was due to chance in altitude with relation to the observer, or due to increased distance from the observer, or due to a change in "polar settings" (sic) is undecided.
8. Weather conditions were: ceiling and visibility unlimited.
9. Attention is called to a similar sighting described to the writer by Mr. Payne of AFSC. Mr. Alrich saw a flare with a similar flight path the night of the ill-fated Jupiter launch.

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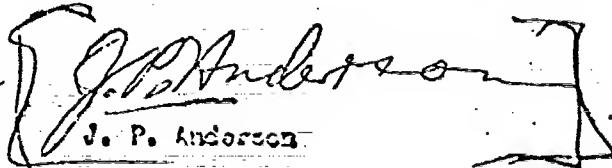
Subject: Report of Unidentified Flying Object

1. During the observation of test 3018 at 0104Z, 8 December 1956, a red flare was sighted high in the eastern sky. This flare was a spot of reddish light with short tails of the same color protruding from each side of the spot to the south.
2. The flare appeared to be at 20,000 to 30,000 feet. Its track, at first sighting (Launch plus about one minute), was estimated to be some 10 - 12 miles out to sea from the writer's position three miles north of Point Mugu State, and its course was due north. Speed was estimated to be 750-1000 miles per hour.
3. The missile altitude at about T plus 95 seconds appeared to be the same as the altitude of the flare.
4. The flare made a wide turn to the east immediately after the missile "passed" it (missile track appeared to be some 3 to 4 miles to the south from the track of the flare), completing the turn about 8 to 10 seconds before burn-out of the missile.
5. Upon completion of the turn, the flare picked up a heading of 90 - 100 degrees and maintained this heading until cut of sight of the writer at T plus 330 seconds.
6. As far as could be determined, the flare track did not vary in speed or altitude during the entire sighting.
7. On making the turn to the east, the two tails disappeared. Whether this was due to change in altitude with relation to the observer, due to increased distance from the observer, or due to a change in "power settings" (sic) is undecided.
8. Weather conditions were: ceiling and visibility unlimited.
9. Attention is called to a similar sighting described to the writer by Mr. James F. Smith. Mr. Smith saw a flare with a similar flight path the night of the ill-fated Jupiter launch.

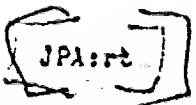
4617  
Copied From Nearly  
Illegible Original

Subj: Report of unidentified Flying Object

10. The writer is an ASA employee, and the knowledge of the approximate launch time of the missile (test vehicle) was acquired in the normal course of his official activities.
11. The sighting was reported to the CCAFB Communications Coordinator, CCAFB, about 0122Z, 4 December 1956. It was also reported to the Director of the D.P., PAFB, at about 0140Z the same date. The D.P. advised that a written report should be filed in the next working day.
12. It is suggested that close study of the optical coverage films for the test will serve to confirm this report.
13. It appears that this report falls within the concern of CERVIS as described by JANAF 1450.

  
J. P. Anderson

b3

 JPA:rt

Additional comments - 4 January 1957

See para 3 above - Missile at that time was 30 miles high, indicating that UFO was much closer to observer or was much higher and traveling at greater speed.  
General comment - Altitude, speed and range statements in original report are result of reference by observer to known object; i.e., aircraft. This established in discussions with AF; no aircraft near at time of sighting, but observer's experience with aircraft apparently resulted in unconscious reference.

Winds at time of sighting - surface  $50^{\circ}$  varying to  $140^{\circ}$  at 10,000 feet.  
Eliminated as possibilities - aircraft, weather balloons. Elimination effected by AF.

Angle above horizon at first sighting -- approximately 25 degrees.

Horizontal angle traversed on northerly course -- approximately 60-65 degrees

" " " " easterly " " 40-45 "

See para 9 above - Observer has talked to two other men who saw UFO, no details obtained.

See para 12 above -- Study of most sensitive camera plates showed nothing.

PAFB - Patrick Air Force Base, Fla.

CCAFB - Cape Canaveral Auxiliary Air Force Base, Fla.

Test 3018 - launch of Viking rocket (1st on Vanguard program).

